

**SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN
(PUBLIC PARTICIPATION)**

July 19, 2005

7:00 PM

Mayor Baines called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Roy, Guinta, Sysyn, Osborne, Porter, O’Neil,
Lopez, Shea, Garrity, Smith, Thibault and Forest

Absent: Alderman Gatsas and DeVries

Mayor Baines advised that the purpose of the special meeting is to give residents of Manchester the opportunity to address the Board on items of concern affecting the community; that each person will be given only one opportunity to speak; that comments shall be limited to two minutes to allow all participants the opportunity to speak and any comments must be directed to the Chair.

Mayor Baines requested that any resident wishing to speak come forward to the nearest microphone, clearly state their name and address when recognized, and give their comments.

Harold Levine, 49 Hillcroft Road, Manchester stated:

There are a lot of issues to bring up before you ladies and gentlemen but tonight within the last month I read in the *Union Leader* where the Roedell Corporation would like to negotiate for putting up another hotel/motel complex on Commercial Street. There was a building that the last administration refused when it was given to the City just about free of charge. I am coming here to comment because I don’t think this Board should get involved with any financial dealings between the owner of the building and Mr. Roedell who I think we had problems with and I am speaking as a taxpayer when I say we put this \$27.5 million bond that was issued as part of it. They claim the deal can’t go through unless they can have the parking spaces that are controlled by the City of Manchester. I say something like this is going to come up in the future and I would like them to understand that you have to represent the taxpayers on a deal like this. To me, the same people that own this particular building got a deal with the last administration on Bedford Street and the taxpayers of Manchester have been paying that bond off. My suggestion tonight is if they want to negotiate with the City, the City should set up a price on all of the parking spaces they own around the old Pandora building on Commercial Street and set up a 99 year lease. This is the only way that this Board and the City of Manchester should get involved. It is something that I feel the taxpayers should not get involved with forming more money for some of the investors and corporations and using the taxpayers money at all times. At the same time I think it is about

time and I keep in touch at different times with the Chairman of the Lands and Buildings Committee about what is going on at 200 Bedford Street. I think it is about time he takes it up with is committee to see if they are following through on what the lease and/or mortgage that they have between the City and themselves, that they are keeping up to it and I think it should be reported to the public.

Will Infantine, 89 Winward Lane, Manchester stated:

I come to you tonight on a very simple, happy item. Before we know it the summer will be over and we will be raking our leaves and it will be time for Halloween and Trick or Treat. An issue came up last year about the hours of Trick or Treat here in Manchester. I have handed out to you an editorial from the *Union Leader*, as well as all of the times for Trick or Treat in all of the other towns in New Hampshire. We are by far the earliest. Auburn and Manchester are at 1 PM. Now my neighborhood has been violating the ordinance for the last eight years. We do it at night and it works our pretty well. I don't think we like abusing or not adhering to the law but things have changed since we were all kids and we went out without our folks and did what we did. I would respectfully request that the appropriate committee take this up. I have mentioned it to the Police Chief. I would like to see us have something a little later in the afternoon so that people aren't mowing or raking their lawns on a nice day and have to have Trick or Treat at 1 in the afternoon. I would prefer it somewhere around 4 PM, 5 PM or 6 PM. If you look at some of the other cities here, Nashua has theirs at 6 PM. Concord has theirs from dusk until 8 PM. That is a little too long but on the website for my TV show, Manchester Matters, I got 76% of the people polled on that who said they wanted later hours. I respectfully request that. Finally Mr. Mayor I hand delivered a letter to your office about MCAM on the 23rd of this month and I have yet to receive a response and with all due respect I would like one. You are looking at me with a blank stare and if you don't know what letter I am talking about I would be more than happy to provide you another copy tonight. Thank you.

Al Jaroma, 142 Island Pond Road, Manchester stated:

This is in regards to the Fire Department and Police. I have a fireplace in the backyard and numerous neighbors have fireplaces in their backyard and every time I light the fireplace the Fire Department is there with the police. It is just plain harassment and it has been going on since 1999. I have talked to Joe Kane and I tried to remedy the situation back in 2002 to no avail. I just talked to him last Wednesday and he tells me that every time somebody calls they have to respond. That is...I am well aware of that but I don't want them on the property. They bring the police over and the police linger around and harass me. Not only that but they have been coming on to my property falsely accusing me of this or that. I sent a letter back in 2002 to your office and the police chief's office, I hand carried it, the alderman at the time, Real Pinard and nothing has been resolved. It continues to this day. It is nothing but a case of harassment. Other neighbors have barbecues in their backyards with no problems. My fireplace is started and the Fire Department is there within 15 minutes. There was an incident on the 10th of this month where the guy was telling me it was an open fire. It

was not an open fire. It was a closed fire in the fireplace. The Fire Department checked it out. It is just plain harassment. I am asking you gentleman to put a stop to it. I don't need the Fire Department or the police over to help constantly. Thank you.

Greg Salts, 23 Pennacook Street, Manchester stated:

I just want to say with all due respect, Mayor Baines, that I am pretty offended at your choice for the most recent member of the Manchester Community Access Board of Directors. On Flag Day this year this gentleman that you appointed to the Board of Directors called the Manchester Republicans at a Flag Day dinner that you attended "misfits, malcontents and mental munchkins." There are plenty of Republicans in the City that were offended by those remarks. The same gentleman took a frozen chicken and threw it into the vehicle of Mayor Wieczorek. The same gentleman also wrote a letter and sent it across the country about a show on MCTV that what misrepresented. I don't think that person should be on the Board of Directors of MCAM and I respectfully request that you rescind that nomination and I would like to see an apology and have you distance yourself from the remarks that he made in your presence on Flag Day. Also, I would like to see a sales tax and an Internet tax in Manchester. Now that I have your attention I was just kidding about that. Mayor Baines I went to the US Conference of Mayors website and I saw that you were Chairman of a Committee that proposed an Internet tax and a sales tax. That was discussed in the meeting on February 3, 2003. I think that if you are going to be Chairman of a Committee that is discussing such radical changes in tax laws in the City of Manchester that with all due respect Sir I would like to see you not circumvent the local accountability and attend these meetings across the country. I would rather see something like that discussed within these Chambers. Thank you very much.

Jeff Kassel, 22 Appleton Street, Manchester stated:

I am Co-Chairman of the spending cap referendum. I am also running for Mayor. I signed up today. Frank Guinta endorsed the spending cap referendum for the City that we are promoting and I am going to return the favor and I am going to endorse his proposal to give taxpayers back that \$2.5 million that we just got from the state. We now have 4,400 signatures for the spending cap project so we are proceeding on schedule with that. We should hit 5,000 pretty soon. Those are 4,400 reasons why all of the Aldermen should vote to give that money back. It is a relatively small percentage of the City budget but as a gesture of good will I think it would be a politically good idea. On the spending cap referendum project we got a lot of help from others like Greg Salts, Carl Beisel, Bill Tickler, Bob Barry and some others and Carl is running for Alderman in Ward 1 against Mark Roy. I ran into Mark today. He said that is opposing the spending cap and I think that will become a political issue in that campaign and I intend to make it a political issue in the Mayor's campaign. Greg Salts who just spoke is a pretty religious guy working on the spending cap referendum and he told me that he has been praying for the success of our efforts. I wasn't too sure about that but today when I saw the *Union Leader* editorial endorsing the spending cap referendum I realized that I am going to have to take a second look at Christianity and

that endorsement was a very pleasant surprise for me. People tend to be very sick of taxes. I have talked to thousands of people in this City and they are tired of this orgy of spending that is going on in this City. Some Aldermen have come out against the spending cap. Alderman Sysyn and Alderman O'Neil who wants to kill the spending cap. Alderman Roy and Alderman Porter have also denounced the spending cap and we will be campaigning against them in their wards. As I mentioned I am going to be running for Mayor. We are going to have a primary. I am running against Mayor Baines and Frank Guinta. Mayor Baines has proposed a lot of the spending projects in the City, the big projects, which I personally have opposed here in this Aldermanic Chamber and unfortunately Frank Guinta has voted for many of them. I have been against all of them and I consider myself the real deal when it comes to tax fighting and spending fighting. I am not some Johnny Come Lately tax fighter. Finally, I would like to make a comment on that big project down at Bridge and Elm. \$5 million was given by the Aldermen to that developer. It doesn't seem to look a thing like the picture and many people don't even realize that public money, City money, was given to that developer by this Aldermanic Board. Thank you very much.

There being no one else present wishing to speak, on motion of Alderman Garrity, duly seconded by Alderman Sysyn it was voted to take all comments under advisement and further to receive and file any written documentation presented.

This being a special meeting of the Board, no further business was presented, and on motion of Alderman Smith, duly seconded by Alderman O'Neil it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

City Clerk